(b) what are the other towns that are so connected with local calls even though they are different towns; and

(c) what are the guidelines in this regard to bring them under local call?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bahadurgarh, Ballabhgarh, Badarpur and NOIDA are other towns so connected with Delhi.

(c) All subscribers who are within the Municipality/Corporation boundary or in small places within 5 Kms. radial distance of any local area exchange are treated as local subscribers.

Even though the towns mentioned do not fall under the guidelines of local area concept, they continue to have local call rates with Delhi at present as they formed part of Delhi Telephone System earlier.

1445. [*Transferred to 2nd August, 1991*]

Appointment of CMD, Shipping Corporation of India

1446. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the previous Government headed by Shri Chandra Shekhar appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Shipping Corporation of India while demitting his office as Prime Minister; and

(b) whether Government is initiating the move to review the said appointment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Transfer of amount to Tamil Nadu Under the Central Road Fund

1447. SHRI PASUMPON THA. KIRUTTINAN:

SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount accrued under the Central Road Fund as per the new guidelines, for transfer to Tamil Nadu;

(b) the details of proposals of Tamil Nadu Government under Central Road Fund scheme sent to the Central Government; and

(c) the steps taken by the Central Government to clear those proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Although New Resolution about the Central Road Fund was adopted by Parliament in May 1988, actual augmentation of the Fund has not yet taken place.

(b) In June 90, the Govt. of Tamil Nadu had forwarded a list of schemes to be approved under CRF vide the statement enclosed.

(c) As actual augmentation of CRF under New Resolution against which the proposals were invited has not taken place, none of the proposals has been processed for approval as yet.

Statement

The details of proposals of Tamil Nadu Government under Central Road Fund Scheme

Sl. No.	Category	No. of schemes	Cost (Rs. in lakh)
1.	*Improvements of State Highways and Major District Roads*		
	(a) Construction of Missing bridg s/cross drainag works	68	3482·00
	(b) Improvements to Arterial Roads	59	19236·00
	(c) Parall l service roads for NHs Bye pass	17	1877·24
2.	*Engineering aspects of Roads Safety*		
	(a) Improv m nts to Ghat Roads and improvements of Traffic Junction etc.	153	452.00
	(b) Construction of road over bridges	6	1130·00
3.	*Research and Development*	35	766·19
4.	*Development of other district roads and village roads*		
	(a) Construction of bridges/ cross drainage works	89	3003.00
	(b) Strengthening and black topping	100	3527 00
5.	*Preventive maintenance by way of strengthening heavy density corridors*		
	(a) Reconstruction of weak and narrow bridges	7	173·35
	(b) Strengthening of state Highways and Major District Roads	43	4742·38
	TOTAL	577	38389·56
6.	*Training of Highways Engineers*	No. of schemes not indicated	900.00
	GRAND TOTAL		39289·56

1448. [*Transferred to 2nd August, 1991*]

Issuing of Passports

1449. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passports which have been issued so far during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the time taken to issue a Passport after filing an application and what steps have taken to minimise the delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Data is enclosed as Statement-I

(b) After submission of application, a Passport is normally issued in 5 to 8 weeks time by most of Passport Offices except at Jalandhar and Chandigarh.

Steps taken for expeditious issue of Passports are given in Statement-II.